

## WESTERN HEMLOCK-TANOAK/PACIFIC RHODODENDRON

*Tsuga heterophylla*-*Lithocarpus densiflorus*/*Rhododendron macrophyllum*

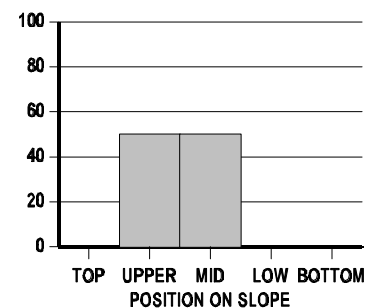
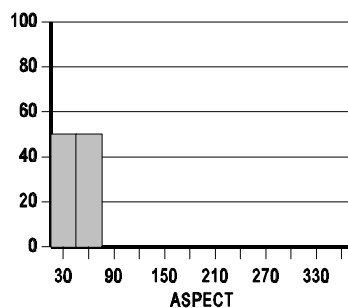
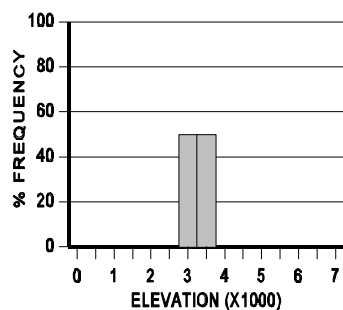
TSHE-LIDE3/RHMA3 (N=2; FS=2)



Distribution. This Association occurs on the Galice Ranger District, Siskiyou National Forest. It may also be present on adjacent Bureau of Land Management lands.

Distinguishing Characteristics. This Association occurs at intermediate elevations, on cold aspects, in very wet areas. Tanoak and Sadler oak, in addition to Pacific rhododendron and common beargrass, are the characteristic species.

Soils. Parent material is sandstone. Based on two plots sampled, soils are moderately deep and well drained. Surface and subsurface textures are sandy clay loam with 60 to 80 percent rock fragments and 20 to 35 percent clay. The soil moisture regime may be udic or xeric and the soil temperature regime may be mesic or frigid. Soils classify into the following subgroups: Typic and Mollic Hapludalfs.



Environment. This Association averages 3490 feet in elevation and aspect is northerly. Slope averages 62 percent and ranges between 38 and 85 percent. This Association occurs on middle to upper thirds of slopes.

Vegetation Composition and Structure. Total species richness is intermediate for the Series, averaging 29. The overstory is dominated by western hemlock and Douglas-fir. White fir is also present, and incense-cedar is common. In addition to the overstory species, the understory includes tanoak, Pacific yew and western redcedar, all at low covers. Hardwoods are not a dominant component. The shrub layer is characterized by vine maple, Pacific rhododendron, and sometimes Sadler oak. Most other shrubs are present at very low covers. The herbaceous layer also has low cover. Moss cover exceeds herb cover, averaging 18 percent.

Upper layer tree cover averages 80 percent and is exceeded only by the Western Hemlock/Pacific Rhododendron-Dwarf Oregongrape-SWO Association. Mid-layer tree cover is intermediate, averaging 63 percent, and lower layer tree cover is sparse, averaging only 30 percent. High shrub and low shrub layers average only 13 and 18 percent cover, respectively. Total herb/grass cover, lowest of the Series, averages 10 percent.

Common name	Code	Constancy	Cover	Avg. Richness
<u>Overstory trees</u>				4
Western hemlock	TSHE	100	53	
Douglas-fir	PSME	100	28	
White fir	ABCO	100	1	
Incense-cedar	CADE27	50	1	
<u>Understory trees</u>				7
Western hemlock	TSHE	100	43	
Tanoak	LIDE3	100	4	
White fir	ABCO	100	3	
Pacific yew	TABR2	100	3	
Western redcedar	THPL	100	3	
Golden chinquapin	CACH6	50	1	
<u>Shrubs</u>				12
Pacific rhododendron	RHMA3	100	13	
Vine maple	ACCI	100	6	
Sadler oak	QUSA2	100	5	
Dwarf Oregongrape	BENE2	100	3	
Salal	GASH	100	3	
Baldhip rose	ROGY	100	1	
Pacific blackberry	RUUR	100	1	
<u>Herbs</u>				15
Little prince's-pine	CHME	100	1	
Common prince's-pine	CHUM	100	1	
Oregon fairybell	DIHOO	100	1	
Toothleaf pyrola	PYDE	100	1	
White inside-out-flower	VAHE	100	1	
Round-leaved violet	VIOR	100	1	
Common beargrass	XETE	100	1	